

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 OFA-01 INT-05 CG-00 DOTE-00

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R 092008Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8677

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0063

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EFIS, TD, GY, BB

SUBJECT: REPORTED PURCHASE OF TRAWLERS BY GOB, GOTT, GOG

REF: USDOC 16936 DEC 1975

1. ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS AT THE FAO-ASSISTED CARIBBEAN FISHERIES TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, THERE IS NO SUBSTANCE WHATSOEVER TO PRESS STORY THAT 150 TRAWLERS WILL BE PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENTS OF BARBADOS, GUYANA AND TRINIDAD AS PART OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF THE INSTITUTE. THEY EXPLAINED THAT THE FIGURE OF 150 TRAWLERS WAS CONTAINED IN A STUDY PREPARED AS PART OF THE JUSTIFICATION FOR CREATION OF THE INSTITUTE, AND THAT IT REPRESENTED AN ESTIMATE OF THE SIZE THAT EACH NATION'S NATIONAL FLEET MIGHT REACH (50 TRAWLERS EACH) AT THE END OF AN EIGHT YEAR PERIOD. THE INSTITUTE IS CONCERNED ONLY WITH TRAINING PERSONNEL, AND HAS NO PLANS TO PURCHASE ANY TRAWLERS OTHER THAN THE THREE NOW UNDER ITS CONTROL. (TWO OF THESE WERE INVOLVED IN UNDP/FAO PRE-INVESTMENT STUDIES AND THE THIRD WAS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.)

2. A CHECK WITH THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED NATIONAL FISHERIES CO. WHICH OPERATES TRINIDAD'S NATIONAL FLEET OF 24 TRAWLERS, REVEALED THAT THEY KNOW OF NO PLANS TO INCREASE THIS FLEET TO 50 VESSELS, AND THEY HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF
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ANY SUCH INCREASES IN FLEETS OF BARBADOS OR GUYANA.

NATIONAL FISHERIES IS, HOWEVER, PLANNING TO ADD THREE
BOATS DURING 1976. THESE WILL BE COMBINATION FISHING/
SHRIMPING TRAWLERS, AND PROBABLY WILL BE BUILT BY A FIRM
IN MOBILE, ALABAMA, ALTHOUGH DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN
ANNOUNCED. NATIONAL FISHERIES MANAGER SIAD THAT ANY
FUTURE EXPANSION IN TRINIDAD'S FLEET WILL BE GREATLY
DEPENDENT UPON NEW INFORMATION DEVELOPED AS TO THE EXTENT
OF FISH RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN AREA FISHED BY TRINIDAD'S
FLEET.
RICH

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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